

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Kindly replace the claims as follows.

1. (currently amended) A method for use in an electronic trading system, the method comprising the acts of:
 - receiving a bid at the electronic trading system;
 - receiving at the electronic trading system a designation of a linking parameter linking the bid to an offer, and generating an offer based at least in part on the bid and the designated linking parameter;
 - receiving a parameter from a user designating a relationship specifying the timing at which [[when]] the bid and offer are to be brought to market, including specification of a time interval between the times that the bid and offer are to be brought to market relative to each other, the timing relationship with its time interval between the bid and offer being enforced by the trading system.
2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving the linking parameter comprises generating the linking parameter based on historical data.
3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving the linking parameter comprises generating the linking parameter based on market data that is related to the bid.
4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving the linking parameter comprises prompting a user to input the linking parameter.
5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving the linking parameter comprises generating a price spread between the bid and the offer.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving the linking parameter comprises generating a size of the offer based on a size of the bid.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving the linking parameter comprises generating a price spread and a size of the offer based on a size of the bid.

8-9. (cancelled)

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the receiving the linking parameter comprises generating the linking parameter based on related market data.

11-16 (cancelled)

17. (currently amended) A method, comprising the acts of:
generating an electronic record of an order to trade on behalf of a trader on a market implemented in an electronic trading system;
generating an electronic record of a counter-order to trade on behalf of the same trader, the counter-order having a parameter linked to a parameter of the order; and
receiving a parameter from a user designating a relationship specifying between the timing at which the order and counter-order are to be brought to market, including specification of a time interval between the times that the order and counter-order are to be brought to market relative to each other, the timing relationship with its time interval between the order and the counter-order being enforced by the trading system.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein:
the order is a bid to buy, and the counter-order is an offer to sell.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein:
the order is an offer to sell, and the counter-order is a bid to buy.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein:
the linking of the parameters is performed at the explicit request of the trader as the counter-order is entered.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein:
the electronic trading system provides to the trader a screen display interface for entering the order and counter-order.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein:
the screen display interface has the capability of prompting the trader to enter the order and counter-order as linked bid and offer.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein:
the parameters to be linked are detected at least in part automatically by the electronic trading system.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein:
the order and counter-order to be linked are detected at least in part automatically by the electronic trading system; and
the electronic trading system issues a prompt to the trader to link the order and counter-order.

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein:
the counter-order is generated at least in part automatically by the electronic trading system in response to the generating of the order.

26. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein:
the order and counter-order are for items that are the same as each other, in the sense of being fungible instances of the item.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein:
the order and counter-order are for items similar to each other.
28. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein:
the size of the counter-order is linked as a function of the size of the order.
29. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein:
the price of the counter-order is linked as a function of the price of the order.
30. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein:
the size of the counter-order is linked as a function of the price of the order.
31. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein:
the linked parameter of the counter-order is generated based at least in part on historical data.
32. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein:
the linked parameter of the counter-order is generated based at least in part on data from a related market.
33. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein:
the electronic trading system further provides market users of the system the ability to act upon both the order and counter-order simultaneously.

34. (currently amended) A method, comprising the acts of:
generating an electronic record of an order to trade on behalf of a trader on a market implemented in an electronic trading system;
generating an electronic record of a counter-order to trade on behalf of the same trader, the counter-order having a parameter linked to a parameter of the order, such that the linked parameter of the counter-order will fluctuate over time with market conditions; and
receiving a parameter from a user designating a relationship specifying between the timing at which the order and counter-order are to be brought to market, including specification of a time interval between the times that the order and counter-order are to be brought to market relative to each other, the timing relationship with its time interval between the order and the counter-order being enforced by the trading system.

35. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, further comprising the step of:
under control of the electronic trading system, substantially simultaneously bringing to market the order and the counter-order.

36. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein:
the electronic trading system provides to the trader a screen display interface for entering the order and counter-order.

37. (previously presented) The method of claim 36, wherein:
the screen display interface has the capability of prompting the trader to enter the order and counter-order as linked bid and offer.

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein:
the counter-order is generated at least in part automatically by the electronic trading system in response to the generating of the order.

39. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein:
the size of the counter-order is linked as a function of the size of the order.

40. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein:
the price of the counter-order is linked as a function of the price of the order.
41. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein:
the size of the counter-order is linked as a function of the price of the order.
42. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein:
the linked parameter of the counter-order is generated based at least in part on historical data.
43. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein:
the linked parameter of the counter-order is generated based at least in part on data from a related market.
44. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein:
the electronic trading system further provides market users of the system the ability to act upon both the order and counter-order simultaneously.
45. (currently amended) One or more computer programs embodied in a tangible medium, programmed to cause an electronic trading system to:
generate an electronic record of an order to trade on behalf of a trader on a market implemented on the electronic trading system;
generate an electronic record of a counter-order to trade on behalf of the same trader, the counter-order having a parameter linked to a parameter of the order; and
receiving a parameter from a user designating a relationship specifying between the timing at which the order and counter-order are to be brought to market, including specification of a time interval between the times that the order and counter-order are to be brought to market relative to each other, the timing relationship and time interval between the order and the counter-order being enforced by the trading system.

46. (previously presented) The computer program(s) of claim 45, being further programmed to cause the electronic trading system to:

linking the parameters at the explicit request of the trader as the counter-order is entered.

47. (previously presented) The computer program(s) of claim 46, being further programmed to cause the electronic trading system to:

provide to the trader a screen display interface for entering the order and counter-order.

48. (previously presented) The computer program(s) of claim 47, being further programmed to cause the electronic trading system to:

provide a screen display interface to prompt the trader to enter the order and counter-order as linked bid and offer.

49. (previously presented) The computer program(s) of claim 45, being further programmed to cause the electronic trading system to:

detect the order and counter-order to be linked, and to issue a prompt to the trader to link the order and counter-order.

50. (previously presented) The computer program(s) of claim 45, being further programmed to cause the electronic trading system to:

generated the counter-order at least in part automatically in response to the generating of the order.

51. (previously presented) The computer program(s) of claim 45, being further programmed to cause the electronic trading system to:

link the size of the counter-order as a function of the size of the order.

52. (previously presented) The computer program(s) of claim 45, being further programmed to cause the electronic trading system to:

link the price of the counter-order as a function of the price of the order.

53. (previously presented) The computer program(s) of claim 45, being further programmed to cause the electronic trading system to:

link the price of the counter-order as a function of the size of the order.

54. (previously presented) The computer program(s) of claim 45, being further programmed to cause the electronic trading system to:

link the linked parameter of the counter-order based at least in part on historical data.

55. (previously presented) The computer program(s) of claim 45, being further programmed to cause the electronic trading system to:

link the linked parameter of the counter-order based at least in part on data from a related market.

56. (currently amended) One or more computer programs embodied in a tangible medium, programmed to cause an electronic trading system to:

generate an electronic record of an order to trade on behalf of a trader on a market implemented in an electronic trading system;

generate an electronic record of a counter-order to trade on behalf of the same trader, the counter-order having a parameter linked to a parameter of the order, such that the linked parameter of the counter-order will fluctuate over time with market conditions; and

receiving a parameter from a user designating a relationship between the timing at which the order and counter-order are to be brought to market relative to each other under control of the electronic trading system, the timing relationship between the order and the counter-order specifying a time interval between the times at which the order and counter-order are to be brought to market, and being enforced by the trading system.

57. (currently amended) The computer program(s) of claim 56, being further programmed to cause the electronic trading system to:

the timing relationship specifies that the order and counter-order are to be brought to market substantially simultaneously relative to each other ~~bring to market the order and the counter-order.~~

58. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein:
the timing relationship specifies that the order and counter-order are to be brought to market substantially simultaneously relative to each other.

59. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein
the time interval is a non-zero interval between the time at which the order and counter-order are to be brought to market.

60. (new) The method of claim 59, wherein:
the non-zero interval is configured by the user.

61. (new) The method of claim 59, wherein:
the non-zero interval is determined by the electronic trading system.

62. (new) The method of claim 45, wherein:
the timing relationship of the order and counter-order relative to each other specifies that the bid and offer are to be brought to market substantially simultaneously relative to each other.

63. (new) The method of claim 45, wherein
the time interval is a non-zero interval between the time at which the linked order and counter-order are to be brought to market.

64. (new) The method of claim 63, wherein:
the non-zero interval is configured by the user.

65. (new) The method of claim 63, wherein:
the non-zero interval is determined by the electronic trading system.